R&D projects on hyderogen energy

*106. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that a plan has been formulated to support some R&D projects, recommended by the National Hydrogen Energy Board, on different aspects of hydrogen energy, including production, storage and utilization of hydrogen as a fuel; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the time-frame fixed and financial allocations made, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) In view of the importance of hydrogen as a major source of energy in the coming years, the Ministry has constituted a National Hydrogen Energy Board, which has high level representation from Government, industry, academic institutions and experts. The Board will provide guidance for the preparation and implementation of the National Hydrogen Energy Road Map and Programme covering different aspects of Hydrogen Energy including production, storage and utilization as a fuel. The Board is meeting regularly to discuss various aspects of hydrogen energy with industry, research groups, experts and concerned Government Departments/ Agencies. In this connect outline of some proposals on hydrogen production and applications were presented before the last meeting of the National Hydrogen Energy Board. However, no specific plan has been prepared so far in this regard.

Assistance to Orissa for relief system in natural calamities

*107. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Orissa proposes to develop permanent relief system during natural calamities to control casualities and other damages;

(b) if so, the details of the project;

(c) whether Centre propose to render support both financial and physical to the State for execution of the above project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The Government of Orissa has informed that there is a relief and rehabilitation frame-work already in place in the State. There is no fresh proposal to develop a permanent relief system at this stage.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Grant under accelerated Power Development and Improvement Programme

†*108. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Accelerated Power Development and Improvement Programme, the Ministry provides 50 per cent of the project cost for improvement of sub-transmission and distribution networks of which 50 per cent is provided in the form of grant and 50 per cent of loan;

(b) whether, in view of various steps taken by the Government of Rajasthan for reforms in the Power sector, the Central Government have any plan to provide the 90 per cent of the allocation amount in the form of grant and 10 per cent in the form of loan under this scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir. Under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP), funds are provided through a combination of grant and loan to the State Governments as additional Central Plan Assistance. In respect of Non-Special Category States, APDRP provides fifty per cent of the project cost while the SEBs/ Utilities have to arrange balance fifty per cent of the cost from their own resources or as loans from Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) and other Financial Institutions (FIs). However, in respect of Special Category States (all North Eastern-States, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Jammu & Kashmir), APDRP provides 100% of the project cost in the ratio of 90% grant and 10% loan.

(b) No, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.